

Message Text

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20

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /115 W

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R 131630Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 322
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS NUEVO LAREDO 0082

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, MX

SUBJECT: WILL NUEVO LAREDO BE COOKING WITH GAS?

1. NUEVO LAREDO POPULATION OF AROUND 200,000 COULD FIND THEMSELVES WITHOUT MEANS OF COOKING OR HEATING ON JULY 22, 1976. OVERDUE PAYMENT FOR GAS SUPPLIED BY US COMPANY ENTEX, INC. WILL RESULT IN CUT-OFF JULY 22. CUTT-OFF EXPECTED JULY 12 AVERTED BY 10 DAY INJUNCTION IMPOSED BY 5TH FEDERAL COURT OF APPEALS, NEW ORLEANS.

2. BY END JUNE 1976 COMPANIA DE GAS DE NUEVO LAREDO (ONLY GAS DISTRIBUTOR FOR NVO LAREDO) OWED ENTEX 899,000 DOLS. THERE APPEARS NO WAY NVO LAREDO CO. ABLE MAKE PAYMENT.

3. UNDER 1972 CONTRACT BETWEEN ENTEX AND NVO LAREDO GAS CO. GAS FURNISHED AT RATE 34 CENTS PER 1000 CU.FT. STIPULATED PRICE 1975 CONTRACT WAS 54 CENTS PER 1000 CU.FT. NVO LAREDO CO. CONTENDS 1975 CONTRACT PROVIDED 60 DAY NOTICE BEFORE IMPLEMENTING ANY RATE HIKE. SUCH NOTICE NOT GIVEN AND SEVERAL RATE HIKES HAVE OCCURRED MAKING PRESENT PRICE 2.29 PER 1,000 CU.FT. NVO LAREDO CO. ALSO CONTENDS US FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION NEVER AUTHORIZED INCREASED RATE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPORTED GAS. ENTEX INSISTS THEY NOT REQUIRED GIVE 60 DAY

NOTICE RATE HIKE, NOR REQUIRED OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FEDERAL
POWER COMMISSION.

4. NVO LAREDO GAS CO. STATES IT UNABLE INCREASE COST GAS
SUPPLIED CONSUMERS AS GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO WILL NOT AUTHORIZE
INCREASE. TAMAULIPAS GOVERNOR CARDENAS REPORTEDLY SPOKE TO
OFFICIALS OF INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO ABOUT POSSIBLE NEARBY
MEXICAN SOURCE GAS FOR NVO LAREDO. PEMEX HAS GAS LINE TEN
KILOMETERS FROM CITY.

MCHUGH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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